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IFW 2616/B

PATENT
8032-1014

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Johji SUZUKI et al.

Conf. 4846

Application No. 09/972,947

Group 2616

Filed October 10, 2001

Examiner Anh Vu H Ly

METHOD AND NETWORK FOR INTERCONNECTING
SEPARATE MULTICAST CHANNELS ACQUIRED
FOR SEPARATE BUS SYSTEMS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MS ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the accompanying documents, copies of which are attached to this statement, are made of record on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited by the Japanese Patent Office in the corresponding Japanese Application Serial No. 2000-309813, filed October 10, 2000. A copy of the Japanese Official Action in which they were cited is attached hereto, with what is believed to be the pertinent portion enclosed in a wavy line. **An English translation of the enclosed portion is also attached hereto.**

Under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information

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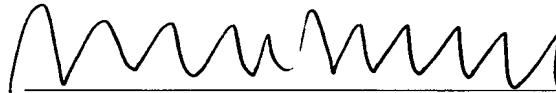
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contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Charge the 1.17(p) fee of \$180 to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

Respectfully submitted,

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RJP/fb

July 18, 2006

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* Abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience